

### NO MEETING !

**License Testing 1pm**

**Sat. June 22 at Field Day**

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### THIS MONTH...

# ARRL FIELD DAY!

**NO MEETING THIS MONTH!** Instead, please join us at our club's ARRL Field Day site at Olympic High School, 2730 Salvio Street in Concord. Set up begins on Friday afternoon June 21 with operations commencing at 11am on Saturday June 22. License testing scheduled for 1pm on Saturday.

**If you plan to attend the Field Day barbecue at 6pm on Saturday June 22, please RSVP to Larry Loomer, KI6LNB at [larylloomer@yahoo.com](mailto:larylloomer@yahoo.com) before 11:59pm Wednesday June 19 so we can get an accurate count for food preparation. Thank you.**



We have many accomplished and experienced club members. After all, we are an ARRL Special Service Club! The club is looking for amateur radio or communications topics that you or someone you know could present at a future club meeting.

An alternative might be several short presentations on different topics made by multiple persons.

Please direct your suggestions to our Vice President Ed Morales, KJ6KYT at [edmorales928@gmail.com](mailto:edmorales928@gmail.com).

Your contribution is vital for the continued success of MDARC. We are eager to hear from you!

**ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE FREE CLUB E-MAIL GROUP AT:**

<https://groups.io/g/MDARC>

**Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX**  
**P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523**  
**(925) 288-1730 [info@mdarc.org](mailto:info@mdarc.org)**

*The Carrier* is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

**President** - Larry Bradley, KK6QPE  
**Vice President** - Ed Morales, KJ6KYT  
**Secretary** - Brian Lotter, KM6NGS  
**Treasurer** - Barbara Whysong, K6WHY  
**Emergency Coordinator** - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

**Directors At Large**  
 Trevor Hall, WA6JAU      Cal Vasquez, K6VT  
 Mark Fehlig WA6NGC      Mike Warren, W6MEW

**Membership Chair** - Jan Kulisek, KM6NFC  
[mdarcmembership@mdarc.org](mailto:mdarcmembership@mdarc.org)

## **PACIFICON 2024**

**Chair:** Julie Mah, WJ8MAH  
**Registration:** Jim Marchetti, KD7G  
**Treasurer:** Barbara Whysong, K6WHY  
**Secretary:** Jeff Mah, N8MAH

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND COORDINATORS**

**Annual Auction** - **vacant**  
**Communications Trailer** - Mike Warren, W6MEW  
**Communications Van MDARC-1** - Jim Tittle, K6SOE  
**Digital Media** - Grant Bowman, K6CBK  
**Education & Training** - **vacant**  
**Field Day** - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
**Good & Welfare** - Diana Sage, KA6TZU  
**Holiday Dinner** - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE  
**License Testing** - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
**Outreach** - Dick Wade, WM6G  
**Programs** - Ed Morales, KJ6KYT  
**Public Service** - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
**Radio Equipment Lending** - Cal Vasquez, K6VT  
**Refreshments** - Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV  
**Scholarship** - Janice Fujii, KG6VTD  
**Technical Committee** - Jim Tittle, K6SOE  
**Volunteer Classes** - Dick Wade, WM6G  
**W6CX Repeater Trustee** - Jim Tittle, K6SOE  
**W6LGW Callsign Trustee** - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

*The Carrier* Newsletter  
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# President's Message



MDARC Family,

Last month we looked at installing a VHF/UHF mobile rig in your vehicle but did not discuss antennas. Think you'll agree that any discussion about a mobile rig also must include a discussion about antennas, so here are my thoughts:

**Consider permanency:** Your decision whether the antennas is meant to be temporary or permanent will point you to your antenna choices.

**Temporary installation:** If your vehicle has a relatively flat exterior metal surface (e.g. roof, hood, trunk) to serve as the dipole ground plane, then a good choice would be a mag mount antenna. There are many brands and models available. As you review various antennas consider how firmly/securely the magnet attaches to the roof. If you primarily plan to use this antenna while your vehicle is stationary, for example at a public service event Rest Stop, then magnetic strength may not be that much of a concern, however if you will be driving, then magnetic strength will be a concern. If you find an antenna that works for the frequencies you plan to operate but does have the magnetic strength to stay attached while driving, then you can search for a better magnetic base to replace the existing one.

What if your vehicle does not have a flat metal surface? If you are operating stationary, then you can use a metal pie tin or similar to serve as the dipole ground plane.

**TIP-1:** Don't make the same mistake I did when I first started using my mag mount. I thought I had crack open my window to feed the coax from the antenna to the mobile rig (or even your HT). Not only is this a bother if it is raining, but a pain in the you-know-where each time you have to open the vehicle door. A ham friend told me that there was enough room to route the thin coax between the door and frame. The coax is secured and protected by the rubber seal.



**TIP-2:** If you use a mag mount antenna with your 50w (or less) rig, you must be sure to have suitable adapters to connect the coax to the rig. For example, many mag mount antennas use SMA connectors which are great when attaching a HT, but your 50w (or less) mobile rig will use other types of connectors. (e.g. UHF, BNC). Having inter-connector adapters in your all-things-portable tool kit is always a good idea.

**Tip-3:** Since the mobile transceiver is generally placed in an out-of-the-way location, such as under the seat, it would be advisable to attach a short length of coax to the rig and route it for easy connection to the mag mount antenna coax. This will provide easier access for connecting the coax.

Tip-4: If you plan to leave the mag mount antenna in place for an extended time, consider purchasing one that has a swivel so it can be lowered parallel to the metal surface when not in use. While driving, this makes it less susceptible to being knocked off and reduces the wind force against the antenna.



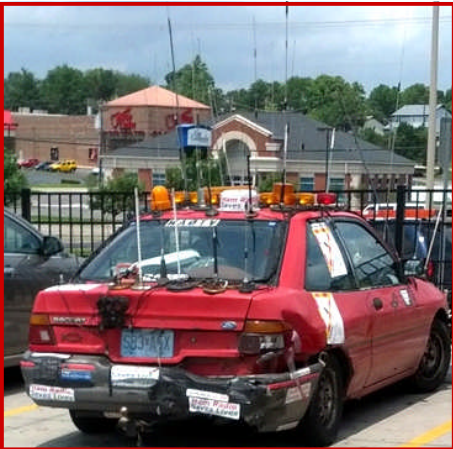
I do not have experience with installing temporary non-mag mounted antennas but know there are brackets available for a quick mount. A quick internet search of some major ham radio suppliers should point you towards a suitable product.

“Permanent” installation: Although we all know that with radio equipment, nothing is truly permanent and such is also the case with “permanent” mobile antennas. However, there are certainly some installations that should be considered more permanent than others. Not only are these installations likely to be more complex but can also require modifying the vehicle.

In this latter category I would include NMO mount installations. What the heck does NMO mount stand for? Well, I had to look it up....” Many radio users, such as police officers, require an antenna to be mounted onto their vehicle, which is typically called a New Motorola Mount or NMO Mount for short.” I think we can consider this is one of the more permanent antenna installations and does require drilling a hole through the roof (typically). I can’t offer any advice on this, other than to say check with the antenna manufacturer, consult YouTube, and consider outside professional help. The person I indicated in May’s Carrier is such a professional and well-qualified to do this type of installation.

There are many less-invasive installations that utilize brackets for hood, roof, trunk and bumper mounts. I cannot recommend a particular brand or model but asking fellow hams via [MDARC@groups.io](mailto:MDARC@groups.io) would be a good start. Of course, checking the vendors at October’s Pacificon is a great resource. You are planning to attend, right?

Regardless of the method by which you install your “permanent” VHF/UHF antenna, be sure to avoid antenna suicide. This is when you forget your wonderful antenna is reaching for the sky and you drive into a public parking structure or under a canopy of tree branches. You



can guess the result...not good. So, forgetting about this need could result in a damaged or destroyed antenna and embarrassment. The way I resolved this was to add a crossbar on the shell of my truck and attach a Diamond K9000TM Motorized Mount which is powered by the truck’s electrical system. Using the touch pad in the truck allows me to lower and raise my antenna from inside the vehicle. Very convenient... when I remember to use it. I am sure there are other solutions that will accomplish this same goal the raise and lower your antenna.



**DON'T BE THIS GUY!!**

Found this article helpful? Then please share it with others who may be interested. Undoubtedly, I did not cover something that you found helpful, so consider sharing it with all of us on [MDARC@groups.io](mailto:MDARC@groups.io). WE can all gain from your experience.

# PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

**Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club Field Day June 22 – 23 Concord**  
(see next page)

**Marin Amateur Radio Society July 20 – MCBC Dirt Fondo**  
Contact Larry Loomer [larylloomer@yahoo.com](mailto:larylloomer@yahoo.com) for signup information

**Marin Amateur Radio Society July 27 – San Francisco Marathon**  
Contact Larry Loomer [larylloomer@yahoo.com](mailto:larylloomer@yahoo.com) for signup information

**Marin Amateur Radio Society August 3 – Marin Century**  
Contact Larry Loomer [larylloomer@yahoo.com](mailto:larylloomer@yahoo.com) for signup information

**Skyline 50k – Running Race**  
**Sunday, August 4, 2024**  
**Running Race in the Oakland Hills**  
Race Coordinator: Larry Loomer, KI6LNB <[larylloomer@yahoo.com](mailto:larylloomer@yahoo.com)>  
Scena Performance [adam.ray@scenaperformance.com](mailto:adam.ray@scenaperformance.com)

**Marin Amateur Radio Society August 24 – Double Dipsea**  
Contact Larry Loomer [larylloomer@yahoo.com](mailto:larylloomer@yahoo.com) for signup information

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**WE NEED MEMBERS IN THIS PICTURE !! PLEASE JOIN  
US AT ARRL FIELD DAY JUNE 22-23...SEE NEXT PAGE**



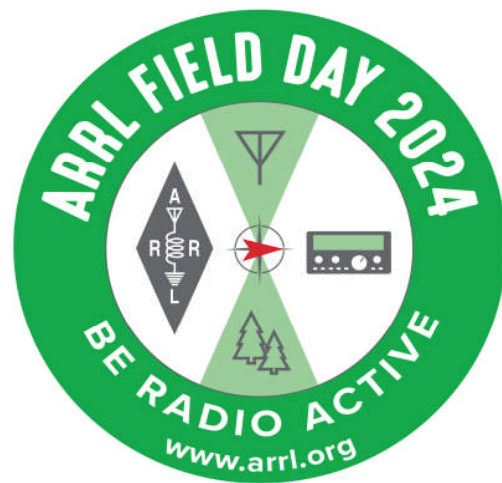
MDARC Van and MDARC trailer at the W6CX ARRL Field Day site at Olympic High School in Concord on June 23, 2023 (*Photo by Dave Billeci, WA6UHA*)



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ARRL FIELD DAY ACTIVITIES, JUNE 21 - 22 - 23, 2024

**Our club needs volunteers for the following positions at the W6CX Field Day Site, which will again be set up at Olympic High School, 2730 Salvio Street in Concord.**

1. Persons to deliver, set up and dismantle the radio equipment, tables and chairs (Friday and Sunday).
2. Public information table and visitor logger
3. Public service antenna display
4. Operators to demonstrate HF radio transmitting and receiving from inside MDARC van
5. Two operators for the “Get on the Air” (GOTA) station
6. Digital Amateur Television (DATV) repeater operators to assist with DATV repeater demonstration from inside MDARC van
7. Operators to demonstrate the solar charging system for the MDARC trailer battery
8. Two Volunteer Examiners (VEs) to assist with license testing at 1pm on Saturday June 22
9. Multiple volunteers are needed to supervise the free food being served for Friday dinner, Saturday (breakfast, lunch and barbecue dinner) and Sunday breakfast; a barbecue grill is available; need a person to do the cooking



## **The following activities are also planned:**

A Get-on-the-Air (GOTA) class will be presented on Saturday June 22 at 10:00am. This class is directed at the General Class license students and anyone else who wants to learn about antennas and amateur radio operations.

Larry Loomer, KI6LNB, will demonstrate a vehicle-mounted (mobile) solar power system

Mike Warren, W6MEW, will demonstrate digital radio contacts

KI6LNB will demonstrate the MDARC trailer’s auxiliary generator and W6MEW will demonstrate the trailer’s features and capabilities.

Charles Henry, KG6PHZ, will demonstrate his solar panel array trailer, which will power all of our club’s 2024 Field Day activities.

To volunteer, please contact me at [larylloomer@yahoo.com](mailto:larylloomer@yahoo.com) .

73, Larry Loomer, KI6LNB Field Day Chair

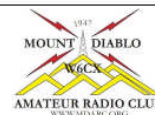
**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR VERY OWN LARRY LOOMER, KI6LNB, NAMED TO THE ARRL VOLUNTEER EXAMINER HONOR ROLL!**

*(see page 98 in June 2024 QST magazine)*





# Field Day 2024 MENU



Meal	Food	Other Items
<b>Friday Dinner</b>  How many people? 15  15 people is 4 pizzas 20 people is 6 pizzas	<b>A1.Pizza</b> Skipolini's Pizza <b>Julie</b> Skip Combo, Vegetarian and Barbecue Chicken, all Family Size 925-680-6888 2001 Salvio Street <b>A2.Mixed greens salad with</b> <b>Julie</b> vegetables, cheese, croutons Dressing: ranch or blue cheese <b>A3.Cookies</b> <b>Barb/Julie</b>	<b>A4.Sodas, water</b> (Coke, Coke Zero, 7up) <b>Julie (Costco)</b>
<b>Saturday Breakfast</b>  How many people? 15	<b>B1.Breakfast pastries</b> <b>TAM</b> <b>B2.Bagels and cream cheese</b> <b>Julie</b> <b>(Costco)</b> <b>B2.1 Donuts</b> <b>TAM</b> <b>B3. Bananas</b> <b>B4. Pancakes</b> <b>Julie</b> <b>B5. Hard boiled Eggs</b> <b>Charles PHZ</b> Left over cold pizza	<b>B6.Orange juice</b> <b>Coffee</b> <b>Larry B.</b> <b>Water</b> <b>Julie (Costco)</b>
<b>Saturday Lunch</b>  How many people? 20	<b>C1.Sandwich platter</b> <b>Barb</b> Spiral sandwiches – lavosh <b>C2.Assorted chips</b> <b>Benjo</b> <b>C3.Cookies</b> <b>Barb/Julie</b>	<b>C4.Sodas and bottled water</b> <b>Julie (Costco)</b>
<b>Saturday Dinner</b>  How many people? 40	<b>D1.BBQ Beef Tri-tip (7)</b> <b>Julie (Costco)</b> <b>D1.5 HotDogs</b> <b>Julie (Costco)</b> <b>D2.Baked beans</b> <b>John Rio</b> <b>D3.Potato salad</b> <b>Trevor MDW</b> <b>D4.Green salad with dressing</b> (tomatoes, spring onions, radishes) <b>D5.Three bean salad</b> <b>D6.Brownies</b> <b>D7 Cheese Cake or Pie</b> <b>Dave UHA</b>	<b>D8.Sodas and bottled water</b> <b>Julie (Costco)</b>
<b>Sunday Breakfast</b>  How many people? 15	<b>E1.Chili egg puff</b> <b>Terry</b> <b>E2.Breakfast pastries</b> <b>Julie (Costco)</b> <b>E3.Bagels and cream cheese</b> <b>Julie</b> <b>(Costco)</b> <b>E3.1 Donuts</b> <b>TAM</b> <b>E4.Bananas</b> <b>E5. Pancakes</b> <b>Julie</b> <b>E6. Hard boiled Eggs</b> <b>Charles PHZ</b>	<b>E7.Orange juice</b> <b>Coffee</b> <b>Water</b> <b>Julie (Costco)</b>

Do people want to offer to share other snacks/food, let Larry Loomer KI6LNB know.

Turn in your food receipts to Larry Loomer for reimbursement.

# MDARC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 19, 2024

Held as hybrid Zoom and in-person meeting

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by MDARC president Larry Bradley KK6QPE.
- a. Welcome to all: Larry KK6QPE welcomed all attendees.
  - b. Pledge of Allegiance: This was made by attendees.
  - c. Safety, Exits, Rest Rooms: Larry KK6QPE indicated the positions of the emergency exits and restrooms.
  - d. Acknowledge new members: No new members were present.
  - e. Acknowledge visitors: No visitors were present.

**2. Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting:** The March 2024 minutes were approved.

**3. Officer Reports:**

- a. President: Larry Bradley KK6QPE had no report.
- c. Secretary: Brian KM6NGS had no report.
- b. Vice President: Ed Morales KJ6KYT reported that we are still looking for speakers for later in the year and asked for more people to connect with the programs committee. He asked anybody, who knows of a suitable speaker for PACIFICON, to let him know.

**Balance Sheet**

March 31, 2024

**ASSETS**

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Equipment Self-Ins Fund	\$ 62,858.33
MDARC Savings	\$ 28,424.05
MDARC Checking	\$ 35,525.97
PACIFICON	\$ 14,933.83
Total Checking & Savings	\$ 141,742.18
Total Current Assets	\$ 141,742.18
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 141,742.18</b>
Increase or decrease from previous month	\$ (1,578.71)
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>0.00</b>

d. Treasurer: Barbara Whysong K6WHY displayed her report as follows [AT LEFT]:

Barbara explained that the Pacificon income was from Constant Contact for WePay and PayPal and the expenses were from the transfer of the WePay and PayPal deposits to the MDARC account and the Constant Contact monthly charge. The MDARC income sources were the dividend on the CD, the transfer of the WePay and PayPal amount and a donation of \$3,500. MDARC expenses were for the tower climbers and for insurance. Barbara added that WePay has been removed from Constant Contact and Stripe has been added as a means of payment.

- e. Emergency Coordinator: Larry KI6LNB reported that we are working on a procedure for notification of the club members, especially the Emergency Coordinator, of upcoming outages of the repeater.

**4. Directors at Large.**

Directors at Large: Mike W6MEW and Mark Fehlig WA6NGC had nothing to report, Trevor WA6JAU reported that there was an announcement about EchoLink and IRLP being offline on Sunday. Cal K6VT was not present.

**5. Committee Reports – Standing:**

- a. Auction: Report not scheduled or unavailable.
- b. Outreach Coordinator: Report not scheduled or unavailable.
- c. Technical: Jim Tittle K6SOE was not present but Larry KK6QPE mentioned that Jim had sent his report, via email, in which he explained the situation surrounding the new antenna installation and the unexpected down time of the repeater.
- d. Digital Media: Grant Bowman, K6CBK had no report.
- e. Education and Training: Larry KK6QPE repeated that he is filling in as the temporary committee chair person He stated that the General Class is already half way and that while there have been technical issues with the classes, last week's class was flawless.
- f. Pacificon: Report not scheduled or unavailable.
- g. Membership: Jan KM6NFC showed his report on screen; Paying members 246, Total including family members 301, New members this year 14, Renewals in the last 30 days, Past due 77 and Lifetime + Honorary members 12. Jan stated that he had sent out emails and 50 postcards to those who hadn't renewed and will send out another 50 postcards to those who haven't renewed yet.



- h. Public Service: Larry KI6LNB announced the following; 100k walk in Marin on May 4, 2024, Devil Mountain Run on Sunday, May 19, 2024, Boy Scout Hike Berkeley Hills Saturday, June 1, 2024 and Lake Chabot Trail Challenge - Running Race Sunday, June 2, 2024. Details of these can be found on the MDARC website under the Public Service tab and also in The Carrier.
- i. Vehicle Committee [MDARC-1) Report not scheduled or unavailable.
- j. License Testing: Larry KI6LNB reported that they had no candidates for testing tonight but that there was license testing at Heritage High School last Saturday. Two of the 3 candidates passed their Technician test. One candidate, a 9-year-old boy, who was not from the high school, did not pass but will be back after further study
- k. Trailer Committee: Report not scheduled or unavailable.
- l. Field Day: Larry KI6LNB reported that our rental has been approved by the Mount Diablo Unified School District. Arrangements for Field Day at Olympic High School on Salvio Street in Concord are in progress. A list of open volunteer positions has been published in The Carrier. Barbara K6WHY asked if there are any plans to advertise Field Day and Larry replied that there were no plans yet but asked for ideas from the floor. After some discussion, Larry KK6QPE said that he would bring this up at the next Board Meeting.
- m. Holiday Banquet: Report not scheduled or unavailable.
- n. Election Committee: Report not scheduled or unavailable.
- o. Program Committee: This was covered under 3b above.

**6. Unfinished Business:** a. None b. None

**7. Adjourn Business meeting:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
 Brian Lotter, KM6NGS  
 Secretary, on May 10, 2024.

# MDARC Board of Directors Meeting May 6, 2024

Held at Zoom online

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Larry Bradley, KK6QPE after it was determined that there was a quorum for conducting Club business.
- 2. Roll Call:** Attendees via Zoom screen shot:  
 Officers: Larry Bradley KK6QPE, President; Ed Morales KJ6KYT, Vice President; Brian Lotter KM6NGS, Secretary; Barbara Whysong K6WHY, Treasurer; Larry Loomer KI6LNB, Emergency Coordinator; Mike Warren W6MEW, Director at Large; Cal Vasquez, Director at Large. Committee Chairs/Coordinator: Grant Bowman K6CBK, Digital Media Chair; Julie Mah WJ8MAH, PACIFICON Chair Jim Tittle K6SOE, Trustee W6CX, Vehicle (MDARC-1).  
 Guests: Mike Patterson N6JGA; Mathison Ott KJ6DZB; Debbie Janke KM6IXM; Bob K6GD; Dave WA6UHA; Charles K3CMK; Trevor KG6MDW.
- 3. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting:** Mike W6MEW seconded by Barbara K6WHY, proposed a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes of the April 1st Board of Directors Meeting were unanimously approved.
- 4. Adopt Tonight’s Agenda:** Tonight’s agenda was adopted.
- 5. Officer reports:**
  - a. President Larry Bradley KK6QPE had no report but stated that he will be visiting his dad in Oregon from May 22nd, for about a week, but would still be available for communication.
  - b. Vice-President Ed Morales KJ6KYT – Had no report. c. Secretary Brian Lotter KM6NGS – Had no report.

d. Treasurer Barbara Whysong K6WHY – Barbara showed the balance sheet dated April 30, 2024 for. Barbara explained that while speaking with accountants she was advised to count income into the PACIFICON as income, but that transfers to the MDARC account should not be counted as income again but rather that they should be accounted for as debits and credits. In response to a question from Ed KJ6KYT, Barbara explained that the money coming into the PACIFICON account is from WePay and PayPal and that the negative of \$55 is the Constant Contact monthly fee.

<b>Balance Sheet</b>	
<i>April 30, 2024</i>	
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Equipment Self-Ins Fund	63,086.17
MDARC Savings	28,425.92
MDARC Checking	37,871.34
PACIFICON	14,878.83
Total Checking & Savings	144,262.26
Total Current Assets	144,262.26
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>144,262.26</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Monthly Report - April, 2024			
TOTAL CLUB ACTIVITY			
	MDARC	Pacificon	TOTAL
Credits	\$3,945.53	\$1,755.32	\$5,700.85
Debits	\$1,370.45	\$1,810.32	\$3,180.77
Net +/-	\$2,575.08	-\$55.00	\$2,520.08
ACCOUNTS			
MDARC Checking Account Balance		\$37,871.34	
MDARC Savings Account Balance		\$28,425.92	
Total MDARC Checking & Savings			\$66,297.26
Equipment Self-Insurance Fund			\$63,086.17
PACIFICON Checking Account Balance			\$14,878.83
Total Account Balances			<u>\$144,262.26</u>
Increase/(decrease) from previous month			\$2,520.08

The MDARC & PACIFICON ACCOUNTING year to date spreadsheets were displayed for discussion. The numbers were considered to be good since there was no objection from any member of the board. Barbara discussed the income from WePay, Stripe and others. She noted that the income from those entities has already had the costs deducted, so declaring the costs separately would be double counting the costs. Larry KK6QPE instructed Barbara to show the costs in a separate box so that we can be aware of what the hidden costs are. Mathison Ott asked if the costs should be split up to show those for MDARC and PACIFICON separately. Barbara agreed to show them separately.

6. Emergency Coordinator Report: Larry KI6LNB we need a new amateur communications service RACES person representative at the sheriff's office emergency operation center in Martinez, for the hospitals net. This is because Dave Piersall N6ORB has dropped out of this assignment.

**7. Directors at Large Reports:** Mike Warren W6MEW – Had no report. Trevor Hall WA6JAU – Had no report. Mark Fehlig WA6NGC – Had no report. Cal Vasquez K6VT – Had no report.

## 8. Committee Reports:

- Auction: Vacant. No report was expected.
- Communications Trailer: Mike W6MEW reported that Larry KI6LNB had found some oil on the floor of the trailer, underneath the Honda generator. He will go and check it out.
- Digital Media: Grant K6CBK reported that the PACIFICON website is up and running and that people are registering for PACIFICON. He also reported that he has made a few monthly updates. Barbara reported that Constant Contact is showing zero registrations when there clearly are registrations. Grant will contact the support group to find out why. Mathison commented that the website needs to be updated with respect to M17.
- Education and Training: Larry KK6QPE reported that the General Class is moving forward but that the attendance has dropped by approximately 50%.
- Election Committee: No report was expected.
- Field Day: Trevor KG6MDW showed a layout for Field Day and elaborated on the details. The map triggered some discussion and suggestions.
- Holiday Banquet: No report was expected.

- j. License Testing: Larry KI6LNB reported that they had no candidates at the General Meeting in April. There is an Eagle Scout Project in conjunction with the Walnut Creek CERT which will take place on June 15 as a HAM Cram session. The objective is to get 10 Eagle Scouts licensed.
- k. Membership: Jan KM6NFC was not present. l. Mesh Committee: Mike W6MEW had no report.
- m. Outreach: Dick Wade WM6G was not present.
- n. PACIFICON: Julie WJ8MAH had no report for PACIFICON but did report that the annual MDARC campout will take place from May 31st through June 2nd at Sugar Pine and that anybody who is interested, should email Julie or Jeff Mah.
- o. Programs: Ed KJ6KYT announced that we only have 3 months left where we still need a speaker. He had offered the PACIFICON slot to Marcel Stieber but Marcel will not be able to be there in person, so Ed has offered him a September or November slot. Ed has invited Edison Fong to speak at PACIFICON. Edison has agreed in principle but the topic still needs to be ironed out. Ed noted that Charles K3CMK was in attendance and asked Charles to contact him if he is interested in participating in the programs committee.
- p. Public Service: Larry KI6LNB announced the next four public service events, details of which can be found on the MDARC website.
- q. Radio Lending Library: No report was expected.
- r. Rocky Ridge Repeater (Tech): Jim Tittle K6SOE had no report related to the previous committee meeting but said that he is planning to go up to North Peak on June 17th to install some network equipment.
- s. Scholarship: No report was expected.

## **9. Future Meetings:**

General Meeting 05/17/2024 hybrid in-person and on Zoom. Board Meeting 06/03/2024 on Zoom only.

## **10. Unfinished Business:**

- 10.1 Status report on revising Membership database for processing and tracking payments, new payment gateway status: Jan was absent.
- 10.2 Pacificon Funds Transfer Policy: This is on hold.
- 10.3 Financial Audit: Barbara reported that John Trinterud has agreed to help with the audit and that, as soon as she is caught up with the spreadsheets and how everything is documented, she will contact John to set it up, hopefully by next month.
- 10.4 Asset List: Barbara is collecting a list of Assets. There was a discussion about whether we actually need a value for each item we have, and it was decided that we only need to keep a list of assets that have significant value e.g. projectors. We don't need the actual value or replacement cost of each item since we are now self-insured for equipment
- 10.5 Did Trevor's phone get removed from the MDARC call (925) 288-1730: Trevor Hall does not wish to receive calls on this number anymore. Grant said that he would contact both Trevor Hall and Dick Wade in order to sort out the configuration of the system.
- 10.6 \$250 for ARRL's book offer: After some discussion Mike W6MEW seconded by Cal K6VT, proposed a motion to purchase a set of books for use at the Heritage High School Radio Club. The motion passed without objection. It was decided that Barbara will make the purchase.
- 10.7 Discard efforts to write an operational policy for the Rocky Ridge repeater: After discussions between Larry KK6QPE, Jim Tittle K6SOE and Jim Brunk N6BHX, it was decided that we already have a statement about this issue on our website under the tab; About us/Committees/Rocky Ridge Repeater Technical. It was decided that the following statement will be added "A good faith effort will be made to notify the ham community of any maintenance events that will affect repeater availability".
- 10.8 \$3500 anonymous donation to MDARC: This donation was made to MDARC to use as we see fit. Larry asked for Board Members and Chair persons to submit proposals, in writing, to be discussed at the next Board Meeting. The proposals can also be for part of the total amount.
- 10.9 Emergency Preparedness Fair on 09/05/2024, 4pm to 7pm, Todos Santos Plaza, Concord: Larry KK6QPE asked the organizers if we could bring the Van and Trailer but has not received a reply and doesn't expect a yes. He will make the application for a Booth.
- 10.10 Need presenters for the MDARC Emergency Communication and Auxiliary Amateur Radio presentations: Larry KK6QPE stated that we are coming to the end of the General License class and approaching the MDARC Emergency Communication and Auxiliary Amateur Radio classes. Kristen McIntyre has agreed to participate in the 6/11/24 class but we don't have speaker for the 6/18/24 class yet.



10.11 Amend MDARC bylaws: Section 3. Nominations; Larry proposed the following amendment to the bylaws where **the changes are shown in red.**

#### ARTICLE VI Section 3. NOMINATIONS

Any member in good standing with a United States Amateur Radio license may be proposed for nomination. Nominations may be made via email to a member of the Election Committee and from the floor at the September and October meetings. At both of these meetings, a member of the Election Committee will announce the current nominees. Nominations will be accepted up to and including October 31st and closed afterwards. **Once nominations are closed, no other nominees will be added to the ballot and write-in votes will not be accepted.** The names of those nominated prior to the October publication deadline shall be published in the October Club newsletter; those nominated up to and including October 31st will be published in the November club newsletter.

This is intended to overcome the possibility of a single person writing a nomination for themselves, for an open position, during the elections meeting and then voting for themselves and thus getting elected with only one vote. It was found that the definition of a quorum for the general meeting has been defined in the bylaws. There was some discussion after which the topic was left for more research.

#### 11. New Business:

11. The 2024 ARRL Repeater Directory omitted all the MDARC analog FM repeaters as well as the DATV repeater. Only the MDARC digital repeaters were listed. On Page 15 of the 2024 ARRL Repeater Directory, the publishers request updates to analog repeaters be submitted online at [add.rfinder.net](http://add.rfinder.net) . You do not need to be a registered RFinder user to add analog repeaters. Since anybody can change the list, Larry KK6QPE asked Jim K6SOE to monitor and correct the list and report back to the next Board Meeting.

11.2 Merging PACIFICON accounts and budget under MDARC: Barbara stated she had had discussions with John Trinterud and the tax accountant Linsey and that they were of the opinion that we need only one account since it is all under one Tax ID. Barbara added that it would be more convenient for her if the accounts were merged. Larry KK6QPE summarized the discussion with the comment that recommendations from John and Linsey as well as those that are directly involved in the work should be considered and presented to the next board meeting.

11.3 Understanding the process: When a person renews their membership online, do they get an “welcome” or acknowledgment notification? Jan was not present for comments but Brian KM6NGS added that when he had tested the new system for Jan, he received an email saying that he had renewed and gave him the details.

11.4 Understanding the process: How do the activities of the Digital Media Chair, Membership Chair, and MDARC/ Pacificon Treasurer affect each other? Larry stated that all of them need to work very closely together because an action by any one of them affects the others.

#### 12. Good of the Order:

Trevor KG6MDW wanted input from The Board about exclusive use of the repeater. It was concluded that nobody has exclusive use of the repeater and that two simultaneous events can share the repeater. If there is any urgent need then one would use “break-break” to get the attention of net control to indicate the necessity for emergency use.

#### 13. Adjournment:

Mike W6MEW, seconded by Cal K6VT, proposed a motion to adjourn.  
Meeting Adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Brian Lotter KM6NGS  
Secretary, May 27, 2024

*These meeting minutes were signed digitally due to the digital meeting*

June 6, 2024



# BULLETIN

Dear ARRL Member,

We are writing to inform you of a serious incident that has impacted ARRL's operations. On or around May 12, 2024, ARRL was the victim of a sophisticated network attack by a malicious international cyber group. We immediately involved the FBI and engaged with third party experts to investigate.

On May 16, on the eve of the ARRL National Convention in Ohio, we posted a notice on our website to inform members about the incident. Since then, we have made substantial progress to mitigate the impact of this attack on our organization. We have been posting regular updates, including the status of restored services. Please refer to our dedicated news post at <https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-systems-service-disruption>.

We are aware that certain members believe we should be openly communicating everything associated with this incident. We are working with industry experts, including cyber crime attorneys and the authorities, who have directed us to be conservative and cautious with our communications while restoring the ARRL network.

Many of our services and programs have been impacted by this attack. We have been diligently assessing each system to ascertain the extent of compromise. For example, while the Logbook of The World® server and related user data were unaffected, we have taken the precautionary measure of keeping the service offline until we can ensure the security and integrity of our networks. Similarly, access to Online DXCC is unavailable, although individual award data remains secure.

Fortunately, some of our key systems, such as the ARRL website and our association membership system, were unaffected. Despite the severity of the attack, no personal information was compromised. Additionally, ARRL does not store credit card information anywhere on our systems, and we do not collect social security numbers.

Our Directors have heard from some members who are concerned about managing their membership renewals. **Members can renew online at [www.arrl.org/join](http://www.arrl.org/join) or by phoning ARRL.**

We understand the frustration and inconvenience this incident has caused, and we sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding as our dedicated staff and partners continue to work tirelessly to restore affected systems and services.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

(Source: <https://www.arrl.org/news/view/arrl-member-bulletin-for-june-6-2024>)



***If you are already licensed, share this Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club 2024 Ham License Classes Flyer with your friends and family so they can get their ham radio license too.***

**Register now for the Final MDARC Amateur Radio Technician License Course of 2024**

\* License *Classes* are held via Zoom and simultaneously in-person at:

**Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church  
1578 Kirker Pass Road  
Clayton, CA 94517**

\* A \$15.00 course fee applies to each course.

\* All classes are held Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

\* Follow the link below to complete the required registration

**\*Level 1 Technician License Course-2024**

**<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/93m4m4m>**

**Tuesday evenings, June 25 – August 13, 2024 (8 Sessions)  
and two Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) sessions.**

**GOTA #1 Tuesday, August 27, 2024; 7:00 - 9:00 PM via Zoom or in-person**

**GOTA #2 Tuesday, September 3, 2024; 7:00 – 9:00 PM in-person only.**

**The complete 2024 License course schedule and course details can be found at:**

**<https://www.mdarc.org/education-and-testing/class-details>**



# ESTATE SALE

**Astron VS-35M 2 to 15 volts 35 amp power supply \$160**

**Astron RS-35M 35 amp power supply \$180**

**Kenwood IF-232C computer interface \$20**

**Kenwood TS-2000 HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver \$800**

**Kenwood SP-23 external speaker for TS-450 \$100**

**Yaesu G-800DXA rotator controller only (no rotator) \$80**

**Diamond MX-72H HF-VHF/UHF Duplexer \$30**

**Vibroplex Keyer \$90**

**McElroy semi-automatic telegraph key \$150**

**Reasonable offers for any of the above considered. Contact:**

**Kim Leong, N6YJ, 925-575-1941 or [n6yj.qth@gmail.com](mailto:n6yj.qth@gmail.com)**

## **Low-Cost Receivers for Digital Amateur Television Reception Available For Sale from Club Member KA3VDT**

**These are DVB-S2 receivers pre-programmed for our club's 1.2 GHz W6CX DATV repeater frequencies**

**Connect a 1.2 GHZ directional antenna, aim it at Mount Diablo's North Peak and watch the over the air repeater signal on your video monitor**

**Please contact Will Roberts at [ka3vdt@gmail.com](mailto:ka3vdt@gmail.com) or visit**

**<http://laser66.com/ham/>**

**To purchase a DATV transmitter, contact Fred Coe, WB6ASU, at [wb6asu@icloud.com](mailto:wb6asu@icloud.com)**

**SAVE THE DATE!**



# **Lamorinda Safety Fair**

**Date: June 22, 2024**

**Time: 9am-4pm**

**Location: Lafayette Reservoir**



- Meet your local first responders and see their equipment.
- Get up close to a police helicopter.
- Learn how to perform CPR.
- Learn how to use a fire extinguisher.
- Learn how to prepare for the next emergency / disaster.
- Meet your local HAM radio club (LARIG) and talk to HAM operators from around the globe using radio!



Shuttle service and additional parking available at the Lafayette Veteran's Memorial Building 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

For more information call:

**925-299-3282**







# RVRN Western Rally

July 10-14

St George, Utah

Part of HamCon:Zion2024

## *Rally Prizes*

**Grand Prize: \$500 DX Gift Card**

**2nd Prize: \$150 DX Gift Card**

**3rd Prize: \$100 DX Gift Card**

You must be a current member of RV Radio Network to be eligible to win these prizes

Additional prizes available to all rally attendees include

2 - \$50 DX gift cards







**JULY 20<sup>TH</sup> • 8AM - 3PM**  
**AT CHRS RADIO CENTRAL**  
**2152 CENTRAL AVENUE, ALAMEDA**



# **RADIO DAY** **BY THE BAY 2024** **LIVE IN ALAMEDA**

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**SOCIETY • CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1974-2024**  
**WWW.CHRSRADIO.ORG (510) 522-1974**

## **FREE HF ANTENNA AND TOWER!**

My husband, Richard Graham, AB6XG, passed away on February 13, 2024.

His brother was the late MDARC member Chuck Graham, AD6CG (ex-KI6DCD).

My home has a tower with a large antenna that is no longer needed. In March 2021, the antenna was upgraded.

I am willing to have give someone the antenna for free if they remove it.

Interested persons may contact me at:  
[caddiefran@comcast.net](mailto:caddiefran@comcast.net)

73, Fran Graham, KE6FRN



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## FT-710 Aess | HF/50MHz 100W SDR Transceiver

- Unmatched SDR Receiving Performance • Band Pass Filters Dedicated for the Amateur Bands • High Res 4.3-inch TFT Color Touch Display • AESS: Acoustic Enhanced Speaker System with SP-40 For High-Fidelity Audio • Built-in High Speed Auto Antenna Tuner



## FTM-500DR | C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Dual Band Xcvr

- Front Firing Acoustically Enhanced Speaker System • True Dual Band Operation, C4FM/C4FM Digital D-D Dual Receive • 2.4" High-Resolution Full-Color Touch Panel Display • Built-in High Precision GPS Receiver • Wireless Operation Capability with Optional Bluetooth® Headset



## FTDX10 | HF/50MHz 100 W SDR Transceiver

- Narrow Band and Direct Sampling SDR • Down Conversion, 9MHz IF Roofing Filters Produce Excellent Shape Factor • 5" Full-Color Touch Panel w/3D Spectrum Stream • High Speed Auto Antenna Tuner • Microphone Amplifier w/3-Stage Parametric Equalizer • Remote Operation w/optional LAN Unit (SCU-LAN10)



## FT-891 | HF+50 MHz All Mode Mobile Transceiver

Stable 100 Watt Output • 32-Bit IF DSP • Large Dot Matrix LCD Display with Quick Spectrum Scope • USB Port Allows Connection to a PC with a Single Cable • CAT Control, PTT/RTTY Control



## FTM-300DR | C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Dual Band

- 50W Output Power • Real Dual Band Operation • Full Color TFT Display • Band Scope • Built-in Bluetooth • WIRELESS Portable Digital Mode/Fixed Mode with HRI-200



## FT-70DR C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Xcvr

- System Fusion Compatible • Large Front Speaker delivers 700 mW of Loud Audio Output • Automatic Mode Select detects C4FM or Fm Analog and Switches Accordingly • Huge 1,105 Channel Memory Capacity • External DC Jack for DC Supply and Battery Charging



## FT-991A | HF/VHF/UHF All Mode Transceiver

Real-time Spectrum Scope with Automatic Scope Control • Multi-color waterfall display • State of the art 32-bit Digital Signal Processing System • 3kHz Roofing Filter for enhanced performance • 3.5 Inch Full Color TFT USB Capable • Internal Automatic Antenna Tuner • High Accuracy TCXO



## FT-5DR C4FM/FM 144/430 MHz Dual Band

- High-Res Full-Color Touch Screen TFT LCD Display • Easy Hands-Free Operation w/Built-In Bluetooth® Unit • Built-In High Precision GPS Antenna • 1200/9600bps APRS Data Communications • Supports Simultaneous C4FM Digital • Micro SD Card Slot



## FTDX101D | HF + 6M Transceiver

- Narrow Band SDR & Direct Sampling SDR • Crystal Roofing Filters Phenomenal Multi-Signal Receiving Characteristics • Unparalleled -70dB Maximum Attenuation VC-Tune • 15 Separate (HAM 10 + GEN 5) Powerful Band Pass Filters • New Generation Scope Displays 3-Dimensional Spectrum Stream



## FT-2980R | Heavy-Duty 80W 2M FM Transceiver

- 80 watts of RF power • Large 6 digit backlit LCD display for excellent visibility • 200 memory channels for serious users



## FT-65R | 144/430 MHz Transceiver

Compact Commercial Grade Rugged Design • Large Front Speaker Delivers 1W of Powerful Clear Audio • 5 Watts of Reliable RF Power Within a compact Body • 3.5-Hour Rapid Charger Included • Large White LED Flashlight, Alarm and Quick Home Channel Access



## FTM-200DR | C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Dual Band

- 1200/9600bps APRS® Data Communications • 2" High-Res Full-Color TFT Display • High-Speed Band Scope • Advanced C4FM Digital Mode • Voice Recording Function for TX/RX



## FTM-6000R | 50W VHF/UHF Mobile Transceiver

- All New User Operating Interface-E20-III (Easy to Operate-III) • Robust Speaker Delivers 3W of Clear, Crisp Receive Audio • Detachable Front Panel Can Be Mounted in Multiple Positions • Supports Optional Bluetooth® Wireless Operation Using the SSM-BT10 or a Commercially Available Bluetooth® Headset

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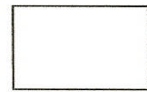
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**The Carrier**  
Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 23222  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
[www.mdarc.org](http://www.mdarc.org)



**THIS  
MONTH**



**FIRST CLASS**

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<https://www.linkedin.com/companies/mdarc>

### W6CX Nets

*M-F 5:42 am Morning Muster 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+*

*M-F 6:10am Commuter Net 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+*

*Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+*

*Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz*

*Tuesday 8:00pm Digital Practice Net 147.060+ 224.78- 441.325+*

*Wednesday 7:00 pm SKYWARN Net 147.060+*

*Wednesday 8:00pm Delta Amateur Radio Club Net 147.060+*

*Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+*

*Thursday 8:00 pm Digital Amateur Television Net 147.060+*

### Club Voice Repeaters

147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz

224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057

DMR Repeater 144.925 offset plus 2.5 MHz color code 1

**D-STAR** 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/>

**DATV Internet Stream:** <http://w6cxatv.mdarc.org>

**YouTube Channel:** [Media MDARC](#)

### Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets Every Thursday

*6:30 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB*

*6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)*

*7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex*

*7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex*

*7:00 pm South County 147.480 Simplex*

*7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)*

*or 147.735-- (107.2 PL)*

*or 145.410-- (107.2 PL)*

### Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

*Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex*

### Digital Amateur Television Repeater

Digital ATV Output: 1244.500

Digital ATV Inputs: 1292.500, 1273.0, 917.0, 430.0

Analog ATV Input: 1270.000 FM (PL 192.8)

## June and July 2024 Club Calendar

**NO GENERAL MEETING IN JUNE!** Instead, join us at the W6CX ARRL Field Day Site, Olympic High School, 2730 Salvio Street, Concord on Saturday June 22 and Sunday June 23 (see page 6)

*Saturday July 5, 2024*

*MDARC Technical Committee Meeting - **CANCELED***

*Monday July 7, 2024*

*6:30pm MDARC Board of Directors Meeting - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE*

*Friday July 19, 2024*

*7:00pm MDARC General Meeting - Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette*